

ROUTING ARCHITECTURE

ABSTRACT

5 A digital communications system for processing at least one of cell and
packet information. The digital communication system includes one or more
communication nodes interconnected through a fabric. The communication
node(s) has at least one network processing devices, one of which may be
designated for receiving the cell and/or packet information, for determining a
10 destination within the node for the cell and/or packet information, and for
routing and/or forwarding the cell and/or packet information to the
destination. Each communication node may also include a shared bus structure
for coupling each of the network processing devices together, as well as an
interface for coupling the designated network-processing device with the fabric
to support communication between other communication nodes.

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